

earn college credit towards certificate and Associates programs. The four careers which students can pursue through the program promise dignified and liberating labor, livable wages, a community's respect, and autonomy. The pathways include HVAC, Construction Careers, Engineering and Technology, and Welding. The program delivers the institutions promise of bolstering participation in the trades and developing a skilled workforce that is prepared to meet the demands of the future. The satisfaction, the fulfillment, and the compensation that comes with these trades belongs to the tradesperson alone. The graduate will carry these with them as a badge of honor; they will wear a proud and dignified smile.

Our infrastructure crumbles around us. Bridges fall. Housing stock sits vacant. Our water is unsafe to drink. Missouri's infrastructure was recently graded a C— by the White House. I am further ashamed to announce that this is one of the higher rankings in the nation. No state received a grade above C+. Great disasters—manmade disasters, bred of indecision and postponement, of abdication of responsibility—await us if we do not act. We must provide avenues such as this Early College Program, training millions for the labor we all know is necessary. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law marks the largest investment in Americas critical infrastructure in nearly a century and will create an estimated 2 million jobs per year—particularly for those with trade experience and technical skills. Those participating in MCCCK's Early College Program will be leaders in the Midwest region, charged with the duty to not only tackle the nation's crumbling infrastructure, but also in preparing for a greener future. Roosevelt met the Great Depression head on with a whole alphabet of innovative solutions: CCC, NYA, WPA. I believe this program—the MCCCK ATSI ECP, if you will—can serve as a model for higher education reform across the country.

When I consider the endless potential of this program, I reflect on these historical lessons. I think of the new opportunities. I think of the new future these students will build together with capable hands and keen minds. They will become sharp without becoming narrow. They will graduate into good, honest careers. I hope this hallowed body joins me in honoring Metropolitan Community College in this tremendous vision, and in wishing them eternal luck in an uncertain future. They have my utmost confidence and support.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF VAISAKHI

#### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 18, 2022*

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to join with the Sikh community in celebrating Vaisakhi.

The Sikh New Year Festival is a time for 30 million Sikhs around the world to celebrate the solar new year and reflect on the rich history of their religion. Founded in the Punjab region of India by Guru Nanak in the 15th Century CE, Sikhism was founded upon the principles of living an honest and hard-working lifestyle while serving others and treating everyone equally. Despite their beliefs of good-will,

Sikhs have been subjected to violence and have fought relentlessly to defend their faith, most notably in 1984 with Sikh genocide during the anti-Sikh riots in India.

In the First Congressional District of Massachusetts, the City of Holyoke declared April 14th National Sikh Day. Every year, the Sikh community of western Massachusetts gathers at Holyoke City Hall to raise the Nishan Sahib flag in celebration of Vaisakhi. The First District is fortunate to have a Sikh community that plays a prominent philanthropic role by giving back to those less fortunate. As we celebrate Sikh Awareness Month in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, let us all embrace the Sikh principles of service and generosity.

Madam Speaker, I would like to wish the World Sikhs Parliament and the Sikh community a happy and prosperous Vaisakhi.

#### HONORING THOMAS PEEK ROZIER, JR. AS HE RETIRES AFTER 42 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

#### HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 18, 2022*

Mr. ELLZEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Thomas Peek Rozier, Jr., as he retires after 42 years of distinguished service in keeping the lights on for the people of Texas. A graduate of DeSoto High School, Tom started his career as a member of the Right-of-Way Crew for Texas Power & Light in 1980. The following year, Tom graduated from climbing school and scaled his way up—both literally and figuratively—to become a senior lineman in 1984, which happened to be the year Texas Power & Light became Texas Utilities Electric Company, later known as TXU and now Oncor. For the next 22 years, Tom proved to be a trusted employee of TXU, rising to the ranks of senior electrician and patrolman and managing several substation crews. A humble kid from Greenville, Mississippi, who—in his own words—“crammed 12 years of school into 14,” Tom never saw himself reaching the heights that he did. Luckily, his superiors recognized his potential and encouraged him to seek a position in the Transmission Grid Management (TGM) Division in 2004, where he has worked ever since. Tom's decades of experience as a lineman and patrolman have been invaluable for TGM and allowed him the opportunity to serve the very crews he dedicated so much of his life to. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of the 6th Congressional District and the State of Texas, it is an honor to recognize Tom for his many years of hard work and to wish him the best in his retirement.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PAUL SAN NICOLAS SHIMIZU

#### HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 18, 2022*

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Paul San Nicolas Shimizu. Paul was an esteemed vi-

sionary, outstanding ambassador, and true pillar of our community. Our people will fondly remember him as a passionate leader who aspired to cultivate a greater quality of life for our island and region by forging connections with the rest of the world.

As the youngest son of the late Ambrosio Shimizu, Paul joined his father and brothers in elevating their four-generation family business, Ambros, Inc., into a catalyst of prosperity for all those whose lives it touched. Contributing to its significant expansion, alongside increased opportunities for many throughout our region, he brought new meaning to their company slogan, “Generations Serving Micronesia.” In addition to having learned every aspect of Ambros, Inc., risen as its Corporate Secretary and joint owner, and spearheaded iconic sports and entertainment events for the island public, he further dedicated his work toward the growth of the company's subsidiaries, Marianas Pacific Distributors, Inc., Shimbros Inc. in Palau, Shimbros Audio, and American Samoa, Inc. Moreover, as appointed Vice Chair on the Board of Directors for the Guam Visitors Bureau with critical roles as chair for the North America, Pacific and Philippines Marketing and Sports and Events Committees and vice-chair of the Air Service Development and Japan Marketing Committee, he materially advanced Guam's tourism industry and fostered its ties to government and community.

Paul's influence within our community also extended beyond the business sector. With a passion to showcase Guam's people, talent, and greatness to the rest of the world, he was an ardent supporter of musicians. He worked to transform Shimbros into more than a music production company by facilitating music lessons for almost any instrument to generations of islanders in addition to hosting historic concerts for international artists such as Toto, Skid Row, Santana, Maxi Priest, Reggae Sunsplash, Mike Love & The Beach Boys Touring Band, and UB40. An accomplished Team Guam basketball gold-medalist himself, he also recognized the importance of creating spaces for our athletes to rise as fierce opponents and champions on the world stage. This was partly demonstrated by the guidance and support he offered to his nephew, Steve, in establishing the Marianas Open—a recognized Brazilian jiu-jitsu competition for all ages—as well as his consistent sponsorship of numerous professional boxing matches, soccer leagues, and other sports organizations and activities. His devotion to others also materialized in numerous philanthropic endeavors including involvement with the IRecycle program, charitable giving, and other worthy causes.

Paul San Nicolas Shimizu admirably embodied the Håfa Adai spirit and CHamoru value of inafa'maolek with humility and distinction. His unwavering zeal to put Guam on the map for our region, nation, and world to see continues to inspire many throughout the island, and I join the People of Guam in remembering and celebrating his life and legacy of commitment to serving community at the unique intersections of one's skills, opportunities, and interests. My family and I wish to extend our hearts and prayers for Paul San Nicolas Shimizu, his wife, Jeni; their children, Toby, Carlos, Lucas, Pilar, and Diego; the rest of their family, and friends. He will be dearly

missed, and his love and memories will forever remain in the hearts of the People of Guam.